

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-10 and 12 are currently pending. Claims 1-12 and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,577,535 (Pasternak) in view of U.S. Patent 6,732,304 (Ong) and U.S. Patent No. 5,796,285 (Drouot).

On October 22, 2008 Applicants' representative conducted a telephonic interview with the Examiner. No agreement was reached.

Please amend Claim 1 as set forth herein. Support for the amendments to Claim 1 can be found in the specification at page 5, lines 18-19 and page 6, lines 5-9. No new matter has been added.

Regarding the rejection of independent Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), the Examiner states that the combination of Pasternak in view of Ong and Drouot teach each and every limitation of the claim.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite, in part, a power control unit for generating a plurality of power control signals, a clock control unit for generating a plurality of clock control signals, and that each local DC voltage generator receives from said power control unit a different power control signal for controlling the power supplied to the local DC generator and its at least one unit of the plurality of subsystems and receives from said clock control unit a different clock control signal for controlling the timing of the local DC generator, said clock control signal also supplied to its at least one unit of the plurality of subsystems. In addition, Claim 1 has been amended to recite, in part, that each local DC voltage generator is individually controlled in accordance with its respective power control signal and clock control signal, and each of the units is individually provided with power only from an associated local DC voltage generator.

Pasternak teaches only two signals (CS0 and CS1) that are used to generate all of its CE and PE signals. In addition, Pasternak discloses that a CE signal is the same as a PE signal, for example CE0 is the same signal as PE3.

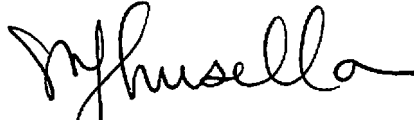
Claim 1 recites a local DC voltage generator that receives from said power control unit a different one of the plurality of power control signals for controlling the power supplied to the local DC generator and its at least one unit of the plurality of subsystems and that receives from said clock control unit a different one of the plurality of clock control signals for controlling the timing of the local DC generator, said clock control signal also supplied to at least one unit of the plurality of subsystems; each local DC voltage generator is individually controlled in accordance with its respective power control signal and clock control signal; each of the units is individually provided with power only from an associated local DC voltage generator. These features of amended Claim 1 are neither taught nor disclosed by any combination of Pasternak, Ong and Drouot.

Accordingly, for at least the above-stated reasons, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

Independent Claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claims 2-10 and 12, these are likewise believed to be allowable by virtue of their dependence on their respective amended independent claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of dependent Claims 2-10 and 12 is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 1-10 and 12, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Musella", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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